

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 AS-01 /027 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:POAKLEY/JABAKER/DD

APPROVED BY IO:WBBUFFUM

NEA/ARN:MR. KORN

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

IO/SEC:RHENNES

S/S:JPMOFFAT

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O 052341Z NOV 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243779

EXDIS TOSEC 747

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC XF

SUBJECT: UNDOF EXTENSION

FROM BUFFUM TO SISCO

REF: A) USUN 4699; B) USUN 4364

1. IF UNGA DEBATE ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE, WHICH STARTS NOV 13, LASTS SEVERAL WEEKS, IT COULD CREATE POTENTIAL PROBLEM FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE UNDOF MANDATE, EXPIRING NOV 30, AS SIGNALLED BY USUN IN REFTL A. U.S. GOAL OF SIMPLE EXTENSION OF UNDOF COULD BE FURTHER COMPLICATED IF PALESTINIAN QUESTION IN UNGA BECOMES HEATED AND DEVELOPS INTO DISCUSSION OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. THIS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY SO IF PLO SHOULD ASK TO APPEAR IN SC. FURTHERMORE, SYRIANS THEMSELVES COULD CONCEIVABLY USE DEBATE TO ATTEMPT TO CHANGE MANDATE OF UNDOF, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING ITS RIGHT TO INTERCEPT, DISARM AND TURN OVER INFILTRATORS ATTEMPTING TO CROSS DISENGAGE-
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MENT ZONE TO SARG.-

2. ALTERNATIVELY, SYRIA AND EGYPT MAY SEE POSSIBILITY OF PLO INTERVENTION IN SC AS AWKWARD FOR THEM IN LIKELY EVENT THAT THEY DO NOT WISH UNDOF TO LAPSE, NOTWITHSTANDING EXISTING DIFFERENCES OVER MANDATE. IN THIS CASE, SYRIANS MIGHT FIND IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE TO ACHIEVE EXTENSION OF UNDOF IN RELATIVELY UNPOLEMICAL CIRCUMSTANCES. IF THEY

DO NOT, WE WILL HAVE LOST LITTLE BY OFFERING TO COOPERATE WITH THEM TO THIS END. RISKS CITED BY USUN ARE PRESENT IN ANY EVENT WHETHER EARLY EXTENSION ACTION SOUGHT BY US AS SYRIANS CAN WITHHOLD CONSENT FOR EXTENSION OF UNDOF'S MANDATE UNTIL IT EXPIRES.

3. SINCE THE CRUX OF THE MATTER IS OBTAINING EARLY SYRIAN CONSENT ON EXTENSION OF UNDOF MANDATE, SECRETARY MAY WISH TO RAISE WITH ASAD THE OPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF UNDOF EXTENSION PRIOR TO PALESTINE DEBATE WITH AIM OF COMPLETING SC ACTION BEFORE DEBATE BEGINS IN GA ON PALESTINE ITEM. SCALI IS COUNCIL PRESIDENT IN NOVEMBER AND COULD, WE BELIEVE, ARRANGE THROUGH QUIET CONSULTATIONS SC CONSENSUS ALONG LINES OF UNEF EXTENSION OF OCTOBER 23 (REF B) WITH A VIEW TO COMPLETING SC ACTION BY NOVEMBER

12. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, RESOLUTIONS, TOSEC 747
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE243779
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: POAKLEY/JABAKER/DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740317-1013
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741168/aaaacgdc.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A) USUN 4699; B) USUN 4364
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDOF EXTENSION FROM BUFFUM TO SISCO
TAGS: PFOR, XF, UNSC
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005